

September 1998 and proceed with the prosecution of claims 1-5 and 10-17.



Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-5 and 10-17 with respect to Mistrick et al. Applicants are aware that it is old to seal hermetically sealed window panes - it is exactly the panes of glass sealed by Mistrick et al.'s methodology that applicants wish to improve by providing a muntin which does not outgas. Claims 1 and 10 are directed to methods of forming a muntin which is then placed in a window pane in later steps/claims. Mistrick et al. teach nothing about forming window muntins. Mistrick et al. does acknowledge the need to affix window panes to mullions or other rigid member, and does so with a primer and a silicone elastomer, (Col. 2, lines 35-41) but no where does Mistrick et al. teach applying the primer to the rigid member. Rather the primer is applied to the "exposed surface" and then attached with the silicone to the rigid members. Furthermore, no where does Mistrick et al. teach the step of heating (claim 1) or baking (claim 10) the polymeric material. There is no suggestion of such a step either, and therefore, applicants must object to the rejection of claims 1-5 and 10-17 on the basis of Mistrick et al.

Applicants believe that the claims as amended are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) nor obviated under 35 U.S.C. §103 by Mistrick et al whether considered severally or in combination with the other prior art of record. Applicants therefore respectfully request claim allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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Respectfully submitted,



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I do hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Box Non Fee Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1999.

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